

PATENT SPECIFICATION



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" " Feb. 24, 1939. No. 6172/39.

" " July 18, 1939. No. 20795/39.

One Complete Specification Left: Sept. 9, 1939.

(Under Section 16 of the Patents and Designs Acts, 1907 to 1939).

Specification Accepted: March 8, 1940.

518.849

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

No. 26379, A.D. 1938.

Binder for Loose Leaves, Periodical Literature and the like

I, JOSEPH LABIN, of 26, Belsize Lane, London, N.W.3, a German citizen, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

6 This invention relates to a binder suitable for holding or filling loose leaves or sheets, pamphlets, newspapers, periodical literature or the like and adapted to enable such articles to be easily and rapidly inserted or withdrawn while at the same time being firmly held in position.

10 For this purpose the binder according to the invention comprises a carrier or support member provided on opposite sides with recesses or notches and a retaining member which may be wholly or partly elastic embracing said carrier or support and engaging in said recesses or notches.

20 The ends of the said retaining member may be connected together, for example so as to form an endless band which is independent of and removable from the carrier, and several such retaining members may be provided arranged at any desired separation.

25 The retaining member may be a wire, or may be partly or wholly resilient and extensible, for example in the form of a rubber band or a spirally wound wire. The papers to be kept in the binder are preferably previously provided with recesses at opposite sides in a manner similar to the recesses in the carrier and are arranged on the carrier underneath the retaining member, in such a way that the latter may engage simultaneously with the recesses in the papers and in the carrier.

40 The carrier may be provided with extensions or flaps which may serve as cover sheets for the papers as well as for attaching a protective cover enclosing the carrier.

45 In one form of embodiment, the binder comprises a carrier in the form of a cover comprising a back portion of width corresponding to the maximum thickness of the file and two similar side portions so

that the cover is foldable in book form. 50
The upper and lower edges of the cover are provided towards their median parts, i.e. at the two ends of the back portion, with recesses, for example cut-out curved parts and the papers to be inserted may 55
be similarly provided with cut-out curved parts so that when placed in the cover the periphery of the recesses in the papers approximately follows that of the recesses in the covers. The binder also comprises 60
a retaining member in the form of a removable continuous rubber band completely embracing and tightly gripping the back portion of the cover. The papers if not already in book or folded form are 65
folded in two about a line of symmetry so as to produce a central fold or crease dividing the paper into two symmetrical halves similar to the usual fold in a news paper or journal separating the left hand 70
page from the right hand page. To place the papers in position in the binder they are inserted into the cover so that the central fold in the papers extends longitudinally along and over the back portion 75
of the cover and underneath the rubber band in which position the papers remain firmly held and the halves of the cover may be then folded together so that the complete assembly may present the form 80
of a book or bound volume. The rubber band engages at the same time with the recesses in the papers and in the cover.

In another form of embodiment adapted more particularly for binding periodical 85
literature the carrier comprises a strip for example of wood or pasteboard, at the ends of which may be arranged metal grips provided with notches or recesses adapted to hold a number of endless 90
elastic bands or wires. The said bands may be formed by joining together the ends of a length of rubber, for example by a knot, noose or loop, or the ends of a coiled wire by two metal arcuate 95
connecting members, which when the wire is in position, pass over the ends of the strip and engage in the notches or

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recesses arranged therein.

Under each rubber or metal band can be held papers, leaflets or periodicals in a manner similar to that in the previously described embodiment, the said band gripping the bound literature along the central fold therein, and in this way each periodical can be removed separately and replaced in proper sequence without disturbing the other periodicals in the bound series. In order to prevent the part of the retaining member in contact with the outer surface of the carrier from causing any damage the carrier may be provided with extensions or flaps engag-

ing with or secured to a cover which may be divided by folds so that its median part covers the carrier when the cover is folded into book form. The said cover may be provided with one or more pockets for receiving the flaps and is preferably of such dimensions as to form a completely protective cover for the papers held in the binder so that when folded the whole assembly may present the appearance of a bound volume.

Dated the 9th day of September, 1938.

HANS & DANIELSSON,

321, St. John Street, London, E.C.1.

Registered Patent Agents.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

No. 6172 A.D. 1939.

Binder for Loose Leaves, Periodical Literature and the like

I, JOSEPH LABIN, of 26, Belsize Lane, London, N.W.3, a German citizen, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

Further to my application for Patent No. 26379/38 (Serial No. 518,849), dated 9th September, 1938:

One longitudinal side of the carrier in the binder is unattached; to this side wings are fitted at the top and at the bottom; these wings form one part of a frame, the other part of which is formed by the cover to which the carrier is attached. This frame serves the purpose of keeping in their respective positions leaves, periodicals, etc., so as to prevent them from falling out of the binder.

The wings attached to the side of the carrier as described above are fitted with flexible bands, so that the wings may, in addition to the same movement of 90 degrees described by the carrier, describe a further independent movement on their own, of 90 degrees when the leaves, periodicals etc. are turned over. When the binder is closed they describe a similar movement of 90 plus 90 degrees backwards,—with the result, that the leaves, periodicals, etc. always remain in the frame.

When at rest, the flexible wings lie flat on the carrier, in such a way, that they are inclined towards the longitudinal side of the carrier. They only begin to function, when the contents of the binder, consisting of leaves, periodicals, etc. begin to expand, then the wings become raised and come to lie against the said leaves, periodicals, etc. and thus prevent one or more of these from falling out of the binder.

When the binder is full, the retaining members at the end of the carrier sometimes fall out of the binder if handled

carelessly, taking with them the leaves, periodicals, etc. which they embrace. To prevent this, the wings, which are attached to the carrier as described above, are extended in such a way, that the upper edge of the wing is level with the line formed by the ends of the teeth.

So as to achieve a more efficient connection between the carrier and the back of the binder, the former is attached to the latter, by means of one or more press-buttons, the one part of which is fixed to the carrier, the other, to the back of the binder or to a strip attached thereto.

Provision has been made, to effect the connection between the carrier and the back of the binder by making use of one or more fittings with flexible clips: these fittings are attached to the back of the binder or to a strip attached thereto, in such a way, that the clips of the fittings grip the unattached longitudinal side of the carrier and by so doing effect the connection between the carrier and the back of the binder.

The strip to which the fittings are fitted and which is attached to the back of the binder:—by means of an adhesive for instance, consists of pasteboard or other material, which may be furnished with a greatly increased adhesive surface, by being covered with a broad strip of paper or other material: this prevents the fixture or fixtures from being detached, or the strip being torn away from the back,—even when heavy contents are the cause of severe strain.

To prevent the surface of the carrier from being soiled or otherwise damaged, the same can be covered with, or wrapped in celluloid or other protective substance, or may be fitted with a metal rim, which is gripped by the clips of the fittings.

To prevent the single sheets or leaves

which are creased in the centre and fitted with a cut-out part at each end of the aforesaid crease, from being torn into by the elastic retaining member, the middle 5 of the paper is reinforced with a strip of paper or other material: in addition a wire staple may be placed vertically at each end of the crease just below the cut-out part.

10 The construction of the invention enables two envelopes to be covered with a middle sheet: the result of this is a double envelope: each single one of which may be so constructed as to form either 15 a file, folder with stuck-on or with loose flaps: in the case of stuck-on flaps provision is made for these to have cut-out parts to facilitate withdrawing the contents.

20 The construction of the invention enables two double covers—one on top of

another—to be fitted to a brochure, in such a way, that two double surfaces are formed at the front and at the back, suitable for taking guides, maps and other 25 illustrations; including the double card in the middle, there are three double leaves available for illustration purposes. The outside cover of the brochure may be extended and folded over, so that the 30 front and back surfaces are three times the width of a page.

A further advantage of this arrangement is, that the flexible retaining member is placed inside the cover, since the 35 double surfaces increase the durability of the carrier. This improves the appearance of the brochure and prevents the elastic from catching when in the pocket.

Dated the 24th day of February, 1939.
JOSEPH LABIN.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

No. 20795 A.D. 1939.

Binder for Loose Leaves, Periodical Literature and the like

40 I, JOSEPH LABIN, of 26, Belsize Lane, London, N.W.3, a German citizen, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

The disadvantage of a carrier which is 45 permanently fixed to the cover is, that it is at present impossible to replace the retaining member, for instance elastic bands.

In the application No. 6172 (Serial No. 50 518,849) of 24th February, 1939, I have mentioned "a line formed of teeth". It is understood that instead of "metal grips provided with notches or recesses adapted to hold a number of endless 55 elastic bands or wires" as described in my application No. 26379/38 (Serial No. 518,849) it is now possible to use a series of hooks or projections arranged closely together with narrow spaces. The spaces

60 can be made so narrow that when, for instance, using elastic rubber bands, the latter must be stretched to become narrow enough for entrance between the projections. To prevent the elastic slipping 65 out of the grooves, the projections will have a form to retain them. A further safeguard is that, when no longer stretched the elastic, for instance rubber bands, become of normal thickness and 70 cannot easily slip from the grooves.

Elastic bands, for instance rubber bands covered round with cotton or silk, can be fixed also together in another way than that described in the first application 75 No. 26379/38, (Serial No. 518,849), for instance through a small metal plate with punched holes.

I now describe a new method whereby instead of surrounding the whole carrier-support the elastic bands run freely 80 round the described teeth alone, so that the elastic bands can be changed from the teeth without the necessity of a movable carrier.

For further security against elastic 85 bands, especially rubber bands, slipping out of the grooves between the teeth—the teeth can be specially shaped.

Another method of preventing slipping can be provided by a flexible plate with 90 prongs—of metal or other material, behind the carrier, which fit into the grooves between the teeth of the carrier after the elastic band has been inserted so that the prongs lie over the bands. 95

When the elastic band is passed round the metal projections instead of round the whole of the carrier, that part of the band previously lying at the back of the carrier will lie on the front, giving two 100 bands for use instead of one, so that two leaves or sheets can be inserted under two bands.

The frame described in the application No. 6172, 24th February, 1939, with or 105 without flexible bands would be finished by the part of the carrier being attached to the cover, by means of wings or a hinge on its long side.

The carrier could be reinforced in 110 various ways, for instance, one or both long sides could be framed with metal rods bound up with the carrier, for instance through cloth.

If round metal rods are used in a 115

carrier, movable metal wings could be attached to the rods. When clips which grip over the carrier are attached on the back part of the strip instead of the front 5 part, a part of the strip, for instance of metal, covered with cloth, gives an opportunity of fixing the clips on it, leaving the front free from the metal parts. The movement of the carrier should not 10 be influenced by the movement of the cover to which it is attached. To avoid this, the carrier has to be fixed on the strip by which it is attached to the back

in such a way for instance that the under-side of the strip lies on the hinge of the carrier with which it is connected 15 through paste, rivets, etc.

In this way, it is secured that carrier and strip are firmly closed one on another and that the movement of the carrier 20 which is unattached on the long side is not influenced by any movement of the cover.

Dated the 17th day of July, 1939.
JOSEPH LABIN,

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Binder for Loose Leaves; Periodical Literature and the like

I, JOSEPH LABIN, a German Citizen, 25 of 26, Belsize Lane, London, N.W.3, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

30 This invention relates to loose-leaf binders but it is a binder for "loose leaves and books". In this binder folded loose sheets and or pamphlets, periodicals and 35 the like are held in place by means, which are useful for folded single leaves only, or for a group of folded single leaves or for books, and that one or more elastic endless single bands, are detachably 40 secured to the back of the binder or the book, so that the folded leaves or books, or it may be one only, or some of them and the elastic bands, can be inserted and very easily removed at will.

45 The leaves may be folded individual loose sheets or may be made up in pamphlet or in book form any of which can be inserted or removed at will.

Before I describe my invention with 50 reference to the three provisional applications and the drawings, I may say that the following points are necessary for an improved binder of the kind mentioned above.

55 The support to carry leaves or books or both.

The retaining-members for holding the leaves or books.

60 The means to insert the retaining-members.

The method of inserting the members and holding the papers.

The formation of the binder-cover.

65 The support, especially for binders for periodicals and the like, consists of two parts—the strip and the carrier.

The strip and the carrier, lying one over the other, are connected one to the other, the strip is connected with its back

to the inside of the back cover, so that 70 the carrier is not influenced by the movements of the cover-sides.

The carrier is swinging or also not-swinging.

75 The swinging carrier connected with the strip by a tab, has the advantage of giving access to the members and the books, which is important for changing the members or the books.

80 The not-swinging carrier can be provided with flaps on both sides, and when lying in a pocket which is built in both cover-sides its flaps lie over the cover-sides so that the cover will be re-inforced and the appearance is improved. 85

THE RETAINING-MEMBER.

I found out that the best retaining-member is a rubber band. It is resilient in its whole length. The simplest is the para-rubber-band, or -ring. For a 90 durable binder rubber threads covered with wool or silk and connected by a metal sleeve with prongs, gives the best rubber single band. Covered elastics are resist- 95 able against atmosphere and also less sensible to be damaged. A rubber band can be stretched double its length; that makes it easy to insert or replace leaves or books, for instance much easier than 100 when strings or cords, combined with spirals, are used, because spirals can only be stretched in a small, limited length, when overstretched the function finds an end. A rubber band is soft, it does not 105 damage the leaves or books in the fold; it is thin when stretched and then finds place in the narrow entrance, for instance between the teeth which are used in this invention, and when in normal thickness a rubber band cannot slip out from this 110 space.

THE MEANS OF INSERTING RETAINING-MEMBERS BETWEEN IT.

Notches or recesses between a metal plate are usual. Notches stamped out 115

of a metal plate have the great disadvantage that the edges are sharp and damage strings or elastics when passing through such notches; apart from it, they cannot retain bands. For this reason one lets the bands go round the support without lying in notches or recesses, and does away with the disadvantage that books or leaves are not securely placed in the binder. I therefore prefer single teeth as means. These single teeth are attached, one separated from the other, to a soft tape at the bottom; any desired length or number of teeth can be cut off without any instrument from the tape. Each single tooth has smooth edges and a hook on its side, so that when lying in a row, only a small entrance is between them for inserting an elastic band. In the preferred form I use a part of a series of zip fasteners.

The elastic band when stretched to get through the entrance in the space, lie securely in it, and also when going round the teeth they are secured and they cannot be damaged.

THE METHOD OF INSERTING THE MEMBERS AND HOLDING THE PAPERS.

The support which carries the leaves or books is provided at both ends with single teeth in a row for a length necessary proportionate to the thickness of the leaves or books, with a little surplus in the length sufficient for the free movement of the inserted leaves or books, so that each book can lie perfectly flat.

In the usual self-binders filled with periodicals, the periodicals are pressed to the middle so that they lie valleylike to the centre and rise mountain-like to both sides.

It is evident that when a perfectly flat self-binder is wanted for leaves or books, each leaf or book must have a fixed place for its free movement, from which it cannot be displaced. My method fulfils this condition.

The single elastic band, especially the rubber band, is endless. It is held from slipping out of the spaces and holds the leaves or books fast. The band and the leaves or books cannot be displaced. Although each leaf or group of leaves or books have their place, the thickness of the binder is not greater because, when inserting or taking out books etc., the elastics can be pushed aside for the moment.

Continuous strings or bands cannot give this advantage.

Single endless bands fixed in position on the front and back make with the leaves which they hold, one line. The bands and the books belong one to another, This advantage can only be achieved by

endless bands complete in itself. Bands bound on the back together have not this advantage, they cannot be inserted or replaced, nor can the books or leaves which they hold be moved in this easy way. This advantage is also to be seen when periodicals have different thicknesses or when single leaves lie one over the other under a single band; when inserting thick books, one or two teeth be left idle. Therefore the described binder can be made to fit the contents, or the contents can be arranged to fit the binder.

The single elastic band is preferred when the carrier is swinging so that the band can be changed round the carrier; if the carrier is not swinging and is permanently connected to the strip, then it is better when the elastic single band is hooked over the teeth, giving two bands on the front and making the carrier free from the bands on its back, and therefore thinner. Both ends of the elastic can be bound together by string on the back of the carrier.

THE COVER OF THE BINDER CAN BE FORMED BY A POCKET IN THE MIDDLE.

The cover carries the weight of the contents, so that it is advantageous to reinforce the cover. The cover sides, besides the middle, can be creased and then folded and held together by the flaps of the not-swinging carrier which lies over the cover and will be stuck to it. In this case the strip of the support is stuck to the back of the inside of the cover so that the whole support lies in this pocket. The flaps can be provided with lining-paper. This gives a better appearance. Apart from this, all three sides of the cover carry the weight of the contents, and lie on one plane.

To prevent the folded single sheets, or leaves and books, which are notched in the centrefold on the opposite ends from being further torn by the retaining member, the middle of the papers may be reinforced by gumstrip, or other materials; in addition a wire staple may be placed vertically below the cut-out part.

I will now describe my invention with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which the cover is letter A, the carrier B, the strip C, the teeth D, the elastic bands E, and the leaves or books F.

Fig. 1 shows a binder, open, with a swinging carrier closed, with leaves lying underneath elastic bands E in the front, held in position between teeth D, and which run round the carrier.

Fig. 2 shows a binder, with a swinging carrier opened, and with press buttons in the carrier and on the strip where the strip is attached to the back of the cover

on one side, and by a tab to the carrier on the other side, with single elastic bands E running round the carrier holding leaves underneath.

Fig. 3 shows in cross-section the cover of the binder with a pocket built by both sides of the cover and both flaps of the not-swinging carrier with the support lying in the pocket and with elastic bands E which are hooked over the teeth D giving two bands in the front with books under the elastic.

Fig. 4 shows in cross-section the support in which the strip is attached to the back on one side while on the other side it is attached by a tab to the carrier which is swinging on a hinge, and with flanges on the outside of the carrier which build a frame.

Fig. 5 shows a cross section of a cover with an elastic single band E a covered rubber thread connected at the ends by a metal plate lying between the teeth D and running round the carrier.

Fig. 6 shows a cross section of a metal sleeve with prongs in it connecting the ends of a covered rubber thread to form a single band E.

Fig. 7 shows a row of teeth D with hooks and elastic bands E between the spaces, attached to a tape, one tooth separated from the other.

Fig. 8 shows a binder with a flexible cover and a flexible carrier which has a wing which is fitted into a pocket inside the cover.

Fig. 9 shows a cover adapted to take a number of double envelope-like constructions, one only of which is shown.

In Fig. 1 the carrier in the binder is secured to the strip on one side while the other side is swinging, but close to the strip by press buttons and the like and with single bands E between teeth D running round the carrier underneath any suitable number of double sheets placed either individually or collectively.

In Fig. 2 the swinging carrier is open, the strip, C, is attached to the back of the cover A on one side, while the other length side is attached by a tab 3, to the hinged carrier B, with press buttons 6, in both parts of the support, so that the press buttons close when the carrier lies on the strip, fitted to one another, because the movement of the swinging carrier is exactly secured by the length of the tape to the strip and in no way influenced from the movement of the cover sides when opening or closing the binder. Each single band E runs round the carrier, holding underneath leaves or books, and it is easy to insert and replace both the bands and the books. In Fig. 3 a cross-

section shows a binder with a not-swing-

ing carrier B, lying in a pocket 8, which is built by the cover-sides A, and the flaps 1 and the carrier B, which flaps hold the cover-sides together, reinforcing the cover and improving the appearance, and with elastic bands E running round the teeth D, providing elastic bands in the front to receive double sheets of books F.

In Fig. 4 a cross-section of an open carrier B, attached to the strip C by a tab 3, with a frame on it made by flanges 2, which frame prevents the falling down of, for instance, heavy books, off the ends of the carrier, and in which the carrier and the strip has part of press buttons 6, or another fastening device for closing one to another, and in which the influence from the movement of the cover is eliminated.

In Fig. 5 a cross-section shows an elastic band of rubber threads E covered with textile of any kind connected together by metal sleeves, running round the carrier B, while the strip C is attached to the back.

In Fig. 6 a metal sleeve with prongs is shown, with ends of covered rubber threads E, which are pressed together and fixed by the prongs to prevent the slipping out of the ends.

In Fig. 7 a row of single teeth D, one separated from the other, are shown attached to a tape 4, of textile or other kind with a sort bottom in which the teeth D are provided with hooks on the side, which makes difficult the slipping out of the bands E from the narrow spaces between the teeth.

In Fig. 8 the binder is shown with a flexible cover, with a pocket in it—known *per se*, in which a flexible support with a wing 5 on the left side goes in the pocket, while the right side of the cover can be turned to the left side, so that the binder is to be used like a pocket notebook.

In Fig. 9 a binder is shown, for instance for holding documents with double envelopes and with cut-outs in it and a middle leaf lying and covering the cut-outs and a support with teeth D and single elastic bands E lying in the centre fold of the envelope and holding all together.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. A looseleaf binder for removably holding folded sheets, books, periodicals, parts and the like comprising a support, provided at both ends with two or a series of single teeth, lying one on another with spaces between the teeth, in which single elastic endless retaining-members can be

inserted, wherein each single member embraces the support completely or a tooth on the support and is kept in its position between the teeth by the shape of the teeth, so that the sheets or books inserted under the elastic endless members consequently maintain their proper relative position and therefore the sheets or books lie perfectly flat, and the whole has the appearance of a self-binder.

2. A self-binder according to claim 1 in which the support consists of two parts, a strip and a carrier—which lie one over the other, and in which the back of the strip is permanently attached in any way to the back of the cover, while the carrier is permanently attached to the strip.

3. A self-binder according to claim 2 in which one side of the strip is permanently fixed to the back of the cover while the other side of the strip is hingedly attached to one side of the carrier by a tab or the like so that access can be obtained to both sides of the carrier.

4. A self-binder according to claim 3 in which one side of the strip is permanently attached to the back of the cover while the swinging side of the carrier is connected to the strip by pressbuttons, and the like, so that by opening and closing the binder the movement of the coversides does not influence the fitting of the two parts of the pressbuttons and the like.

5. A self-binder according to claim 3 in which the carrier has a frame of movable wings or flanges whose ends are extended to the outer ends of the teeth so as to prevent accidental removal or slipping out of books from the carrier.

6. A self-binder according to claim 1 wherein the teeth are formed by a series of separate single teeth.

7. A self-binder according to claim 1 in which the elastic bands are kept in their position by single teeth with hooks on the side and both ends of the elastic band are bound together by a string on the back of the carrier, so that they can retain and prevent the slipping out of the elastic member from the spaces between the teeth.

8. A self-binder according to claim 6 in which the single teeth have smooth edges and are attached to a tape so that the bottom of the space is soft to prevent damaging of elastic bands and any number of teeth can be cut off from the tape.

9. A self-binder according to claim 1 in which the elastic members are fully resilient and consist of a material which

can change its diameter so that it can be extended to make it easier when inserting or changing sheets and thinner when inserting the elastic in the small space between the teeth and when in normal thickness are fixed within the space and that this material is rubber in the form of a simple rubber-ring or an endless rubber band of rubber threads, covered with wool, silk or other material and connected for example by a metal sleeve with prongs on it.

10. A self-binder according to claim 9, in which each endless single band is individually insertable and removable.

11. A self-binder according to claim 9 with single elastic bands in which the single band is hooked over a tooth so as to bring two bands on the front under which sheets or books can lie and the support is free from elastic bands on the back and therefore thinner.

12. A self-binder according to claim 1 wherein the tear under the notches in the paper is prevented and the papers are reinforced for example by placing wire staples vertically under the notches or by providing the fold or edges with gummed paper or in another way.

13. A self-binder according to claim 1 with a pocket to secure the support in it so as to reinforce the cover and improve the appearance.

14. A self-binder according to claim 13 with a pocket between the coversides and the back which can be made when the flaps from the carrier are extended and attached to both sides of the covers and the cover is creased.

15. A self-binder according to any of the previous claims in combination with sheets formed in double-envelope manner for example as shown in Figure 9 of the accompanying drawing.

16. A self-binder according to claim 1 comprising a support and endless elastic bands of any suitable kinds adapted to be held by spaces between teeth—in such a way that the sheets, books, and the like can be removable placed under single elastic bands and thereby held to the support which has any suitable means for attaching it in a permanently or hinged manner to the strip and therefore the cover of the binder.

17. This improved looseleaf and book-binder having one or more elastic bands substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

Dated this 8th day of September, 1939.

JOSEPH LABIN.

[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]

Fig. 1.

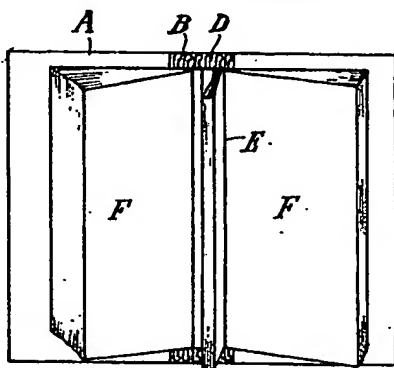


Fig. 2.

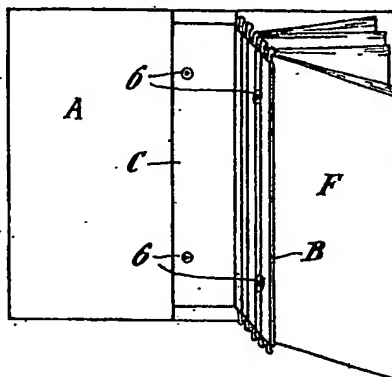


Fig. 3.

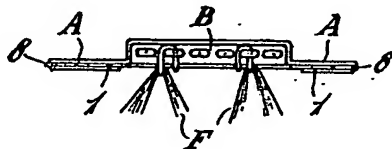


Fig. 4.

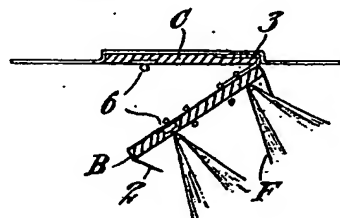


Fig. 5.

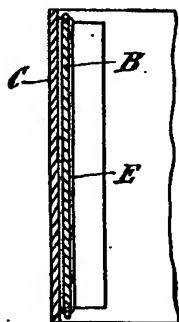


Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.

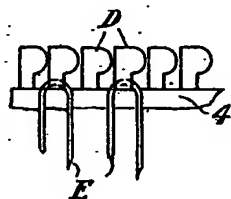


Fig. 8.

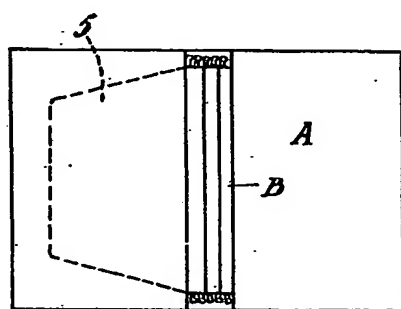


Fig. 9.

